

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Replacement Claim Set:

1. (Currently amended) An ink jet head comprising:

a ~~plate shaped~~ nozzle chip with a thin substantially rectangular parallelepiped plate shape, comprising including: a front end surface in which a plurality of nozzles for jetting ink are provided, a back end surface opposed to the front end surface, which has a substantially rectangular shape with a pair of short sides each having a length substantially equal to a thickness of the substantially rectangular parallelepiped platte, and four side surfaces adjacent to the back end surface; and

a frame shape member, to position and mount the nozzle chip thereon, including:

a first protrusion pair which abuts on one pair of facing side surfaces extending in a lengthwise direction, ~~sides of the four side surfaces,~~ at positions in the vicinity of an end of the back end surface of the nozzle chip in a lengthwise direction to sandwich the nozzle chip, and a second protrusion pair which abuts on the other pair of facing sides sur-
faces of the nozzle chip, extending in a thickness direction, of the four side surfaces to sandwich the nozzle chip.
2. (Previously presented) The ink jet head of claim 1, wherein the nozzle chip comprises an electrode terminal on a central portion of the one pair of facing sides, and the first protrusion pair abuts on a portion of the one pair of facing sides on which no electrode terminal is provided to sandwich the nozzle chip.

3. (Previously presented) The ink jet head of claim 1, wherein the frame shape member comprises an abutment portion on which the back end surface of the nozzle chip abuts.

4. (Original) The ink jet head of claim 1, wherein the frame shape member comprises a first protrusion member and a second protrusion member on inner walls of both ends of the frame shape member, respectively, so as to face each other, the first protrusion member comprising the first protrusion pair and one protrusion of the second protrusion pair, the second protrusion member comprising the first protrusion pair and the other protrusion of the second protrusion pair.

5. (Previously presented) The ink jet head of claim 4, wherein each of the first protrusion member and the second protrusion member further comprises an abutment portion on which the back end surface of the nozzle chip abuts.

6. (Original) The ink jet head of claim 5, wherein the first protrusion pair is arranged on the abutment portion perpendicularly.

7. (Original) The ink jet head of claim 5, wherein the second protrusion pair is arranged on the abutment portion perpendicularly.

8. (Original) The ink jet head of claim 1, wherein the frame shape member is made of at least one selected from aluminum, resin, magnesium and silver.

9. (Original) The ink jet head of claim 1, wherein the frame shape member is formed as one body by die-casting.

10. (Original) The ink jet head of claim 9, wherein the first protrusion pair and the second protrusion pair are formed by cutting process.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently amended) The ink jet head of claim 1, wherein the back end surface of the nozzle chip has a uniform ~~width~~thickness.

13. (Currently amended) The ink jet head of claim 1, wherein a ~~width~~thickness of the back end surface of the nozzle chip is smaller than a ~~width~~thickness of the front end surface.

14. (Original) The ink jet head of claim 1, wherein a piezoelectric element of shear mode type is built in the ink jet head.

15. (Currently amended) An ink jet printer comprising:
an ink jet head which comprises a ~~plate shaped nozzle chip~~ with a thin substantially rectangular parallelepiped plate shape, including: a front end surface in which a plurality of nozzles for jetting ink ~~is~~ are provided, a back end surface opposed to the front end surface, which has a substantially rectangular shape with a pair of short sides each having a length substantially equal to a thickness of the substantially rectangular parallelepiped plate, and four side surfaces adjacent to the back end surface~~[[,]]~~; and a frame shape member to position and mount the nozzle chip thereon, including: a first protrusion pair which abuts on one pair of facing sides surfaces extending in a lengthwise direction, of the four side surfaces, at positions in the vicinity of an end of the back end surface of the nozzle chip in a lengthwise direction to sandwich the nozzle chip, and a second protrusion pair which abuts on the other pair of facing sides surfaces of the nozzle chip, extending in a thickness direction, of the four side surfaces to sandwich the nozzle chip ~~for positioning and mounting the nozzle chip~~; and
a carriage on which the ink jet head is mounted in a state pre-positioned.

16. (Previously presented) The ink jet printer of claim 15, wherein the nozzle chip comprises an electrode terminal on a central portion of the one pair of facing sides, and the first protrusion pair abuts on a portion of the one pair of facing sides on which no electrode terminal is provided to sandwich the nozzle chip.

17. (Previously presented) The ink jet printer of claim 15, wherein the frame shape member comprises an abutment portion on which the back end surface of the nozzle chip abuts.

18. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 15, wherein the frame shape member comprises a first protrusion member and a second protrusion member on inner walls of both ends of the frame shape member, respectively, so as to face each other, the first protrusion member comprising the first protrusion pair and one protrusion of the second protrusion pair, the second protrusion member comprising the first protrusion pair and the other protrusion of the second protrusion pair.

19. (Previously presented) The ink jet printer of claim 18, wherein each of the first protrusion member and the second protrusion member further comprises an abutment portion on which the back end surface of the nozzle chip abuts.

20. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 19, wherein the first protrusion pair is arranged on the abutment portion perpendicularly.

21. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 19, wherein the second protrusion pair is arranged on the abutment portion perpendicularly.

22. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 15, wherein the frame shape member is made of at least one selected from aluminum, resin, magnesium and silver.

23. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 15, wherein the frame shape member is formed as one body by die-casting.

24. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 23, the first protrusion pair and the second protrusion pair are formed by cutting process.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Currently amended) The ink jet printer of claim 15, wherein the back end surface of the nozzle chip has a uniform ~~width~~thickness.

27. (Currently amended) The ink jet printer of claim 15, wherein a ~~width~~thickness of the back end surface of the nozzle chip is smaller than a ~~width~~thickness of the front end surface.

28. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 15, wherein a piezoelectric element of shear mode type is built in the ink jet head.